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Part IV
International cooperation for development

Section 10
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

(Programme 26 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005)**

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* The approved programme budget will subsequently be issued in final form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/58/6/Rev.1).

** *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/57/6/Rev.1).

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Section 10
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

(Programme 26 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005)

Overview

10.1 The legislative authority for this programme derives from General Assembly resolution 55/279 of 12 July 2001, by which the Assembly endorsed the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Brussels in 2001, and programme 26 of the revised medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. Other mandates include the relevant parts of the Millennium Declaration, adopted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, and the Millennium Development Goals (see A/56/326, annex).

10.2 The Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, established by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/227 of 24 December 2001, is responsible for implementing the programme of work under this section.

10.3 The basic orientation of the programme includes four main types of activities: (a) the mobilization and coordination of international support; (b) enhanced monitoring and follow-up of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States; (c) advocacy and promotion of global awareness with respect to the three groups of countries; and (d) reporting at the global level on the implementation of the programmes related to those countries.

10.4 For the biennium 2004-2005, a key focus of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States will be coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, by both the groups of countries involved and their development partners, including United Nations system organizations, multilateral institutions and civil society. To this end, the Office of the High Representative will work closely with United Nations system organizations, including through the Senior Management Group the United Nations Development Group and the Executive Committee for Economic and Social Affairs, whose membership the Office joined recently, as well as the system of focal points on the least developed countries in individual organizations. In particular, collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the regional commissions would be of major importance for the Office of the High Representative in effectively discharging its mandate with respect to the coordination of, the mobilization of and reporting on the implementation of the above programmes of action. The United Nations resident coordinator system will also be utilized to translate actions reflected in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries into concrete measures.

10.5 On the intergovernmental side, the annual review of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries by the Economic and Social Council would provide a platform for interaction with the relevant stakeholders and guidance in the work of the Office. The implementation of decisions adopted by the governing bodies of United Nations system organizations to mainstream

the Programme of Action would serve as an important reference point. The deliberations of the General Assembly in respect of the landlocked developing countries and small island developing States would provide a similar platform. Furthermore, the Office of the High Representative will also benefit from and contribute to the mechanisms established to monitor the implementation of the Millennium Declaration within the framework of the programmes in place with regard to the three groups of countries.

10.6 It is expected that the activities set out under this programme may be revised in the light of decisions the General Assembly may take on the outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, to be held in 2003 in Almaty, and the 10-year review of the Programme of Action for Small Island Developing States, to be held in 2004 in Mauritius.

10.7 The expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement of the Office of the High Representative for the biennium 2004-2005 are detailed, together with the resources required, under "Programme of work". The overall framework of the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement is shown in table 10.1.

Table 10.1 **Framework of expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement**

Component	*Number of expected accomplishments*	*Number of indicators of achievement*
Programme of work	1	3
Total	**1**	**3**

10.8 The resources proposed for the biennium 2004-2005 under this section amount to $3,955,200, reflecting an overall growth of $855,700, or 27.6 per cent. This growth includes: (a) $262,700 relating to the proposed establishment of two new posts (1 D-1 and 1 General Service); (b) $388,400 resulting from the delayed impact of the establishment of one Under-Secretary-General and one D-2 post in the current biennium; and (c) growth in the amount of $204,600 under non-post requirements.

10.9 The resource requirements of this section for the biennium 2004-2005 were assessed and determined bearing in mind the provisions of General Assembly resolution 56/227, by which the Assembly established the Office of the High Representative, the report of the Secretary-General in respect of the mandate and role of the Office (A/56/645 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 and 2) and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/716). Pursuant to resolution 56/227, the Secretary-General submitted a report to the Assembly (A/57/496) in which he outlined the steps taken to make the Office of the High Representative operational; to mainstream the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries into the programmes of work of the organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations and bodies and in their intergovernmental processes; and to ensure coordination and cooperation between the Office of the High Representative and the organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations; and outlined the support provided to the Office of the High Representative by Member States, as well as their cooperation with the Office.

10.10 Bearing in mind the continued nature of the mandate of the Office of the High Representative, it is proposed that the existing temporary posts now be recognized as established. With respect to the resource requirements of the Office, efforts have been made to ensure that it is provided with the

level of resources necessary to enable it to carry out its functions effectively. In that context, a function at the D-1 level that was envisaged to be filled during this biennium through extrabudgetary resources that have not materialized is proposed for funding by the regular budget as a new D-1 post in order to ensure that the Policy Development and Coordination, Monitoring and Reporting Unit is adequately resourced to fulfil its purpose. The functions of the Unit involve developing and coordinating policy, as appropriate; establishing and maintaining contacts with Member States, entities of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations; and facilitating a coherent and coordinated implementation of the two programmes of action and the Global Framework referred to above. The Unit would also prepare reports for submission to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on the basis of the inputs of other entities of the United Nations system, thereby facilitating intergovernmental reviews and assessment of the progress achieved in the implementation of the commitments entered into by all partners within the framework of the programmes of action. In addition, one new General Service post is proposed for this Unit to provide secretarial and related support services. In order to ensure the full operationalization of the Office, growth in the amount of $204,600, or 6.6 per cent, in non-post requirements is proposed.

10.11 One of the functions of the Office of the High Representative relates to the mobilization of extrabudgetary resources for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries and other programmes and initiatives for landlocked developing countries and small island developing States. In that connection, the Office of the High Representative, as at 28 February 2003, had received contributions and pledges totalling $501,100 towards: (a) strengthening of the Office ($141,000); and (b) preparation and follow-up of the forthcoming International Ministerial Conference referred to in paragraph 10.6 above ($360,100).

10.12 The number of recurrent and non-recurrent publications under the programme for the biennium 2004-2005 is indicated in table 10.2 below. It should be noted that the Office was established in 2002.

Table 10.2 **Summary of publications**

Publications	*2000-2001 actual*	*2002-2003 estimate*	*2004-2005 estimate*
Recurrent	-	-	1
Non-recurrent	-	3	7
Total	-	**3**	**8**

Table 10.3 **Resource requirements**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Component	2000-2001 expenditure	2002-2003 appropriation	Resource growth		Total before recosting	Recosting	2004-2005 estimate
			Amount	Percentage			
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States	-	3 099.5	855.7	27.6	3 955.2	277.9	4 233.1
Total	-	**3 099.5**	**855.7**	**27.6**	**3 955.2**	**277.9**	**4 233.1**

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

Total	-	**486.0**					**15.1**
Total (1) and (2)	-	**3 585.5**					**4 248.2**

Table 10.4 **Post requirements**

Category	Established regular budget posts		Temporary posts				Total	
			Regular budget		Extrabudgetary			
	2002-2003	2004-2005	2002-2003	2004-2005	2002-2003	2004-2005	2002-2003	2004-2005
Professional and above								
USG	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1
D-2	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1
D-1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
P-5	-	2	2	-	-	-	2	2
P-4/3	-	4	4	-	-	-	4	4
P-2/1	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1
Subtotal	-	**10**	**9**	-	-	-	**9**	**10**
General Service								
Other level	-	5	4	-	-	-	4	5
Subtotal	-	**5**	**4**	-	-	-	**4**	**5**
Total	-	**15**	**13**	-	-	-	**13**	**15**

Programme of work

10.13 The High Representative and Under-Secretary-General provides overall guidance to the work programme under this section. He engages in high-level consultations with Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, multilateral financial institutions and civil society groups, clears reports and assists the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly in their reviews and assessments of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

Table 10.5 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective: To help the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States to progress towards the achievement of the goals set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, as well as the goals and targets of major global conferences and summits in respect of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States. This will be done by assisting the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries as well as the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

Expected accomplishments	*Indicators of achievement*
Effective implementation of the commitments and policies set out in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries by the least developed countries and their development partners, as well as of the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States	(i) An increase in the number of activities carried out by the countries concerned and their development partners that address issues focusing on the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States *Performance measures:* 2000-2001: Not applicable Estimate 2002-2003: 25 programmes and arrangements Target 2004-2005: 222 programmes and arrangements (ii) Enhanced coordination within the United Nations system as well as with other relevant multilateral organizations, as evidenced by an increase in institutional arrangements for the implementation, monitoring and review of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries as well as the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

	Performance measures:
	2000-2001: Not applicable
	Estimate 2002-2003: 12 decisions taken by governing boards of United Nations system organizations to mainstream, follow-up and report on the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Development States
	Target 2004-2005: To be determined
	(iii) Increased participation of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in intergovernmental processes
	Performance measures:
	2000-2001: Not applicable
	Estimate 2002-2003: 145 statements at intergovernmental meetings
	Target 2004-2005: 150 statements at intergovernmental meetings

External factors

10.14 The programme is expected to achieve its objective and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) cooperation and collaboration between United Nations organizations and the Office of the High Representative is strengthened; (b) all partners respect the commitments set out in the programmes of action, referred to above; (c) sufficient human and financial resources are available; and (d) the political situation of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States is stable.

Outputs

10.15 During the biennium, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) General Assembly:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings. Substantive servicing of the plenary and the Second Committee (16);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Comprehensive annual progress reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries by the General Assembly (2); report on specific actions related to particular needs and problems faced by the landlocked developing countries (1); report on the

transit environment in landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit neighbours (1); and report on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (2);

(ii) Economic and Social Council:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings. Annual review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries (4);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Report on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries by the Economic and Social Council (2);

(iii) Annual ministerial meetings of least developed countries and landlocked developing countries: substantive servicing of meetings. Annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries (4); and annual ministerial meeting of the landlocked developing countries (4);

(iv) Ad hoc expert groups: expert group meeting on the implementation of the outcome of the international ministerial conference on transit transport cooperation;

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Recurrent publications: Progress in the Implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action by the United Nations System Organizations (Open Forum for Partnerships);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications: Building Human and Institutional Capacities; Building Productive Capacities to make globalization work for the Least Developed Countries; Enabling Environment in the Least Developed Countries for the Eradication of Poverty; Enhancing the Role of Trade and Development; Good Governance of Least Developed Countries; Mobilizing Financial Resources; and Reducing Vulnerabilities and Protecting the Environment;

(iii) Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits: World Statistics Pocketbook for Landlocked Developing Countries; World Statistics Pocketbook for the Least Developed Countries; and World Statistics Pocketbook for the Small Island Developing States;

(iv) Special events: dialogue with civil society — forum for annual review; dialogue with civil society during the preparatory process for the 10-year review of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States; forums on quality of aid and aid effectiveness; a forum on market access to the least developed countries and the Doha round of trade negotiations; interactive panel with the private sector; open forum for partnerships; and a special television programme on good practices in implementing the outcome of the International Ministerial Conference.

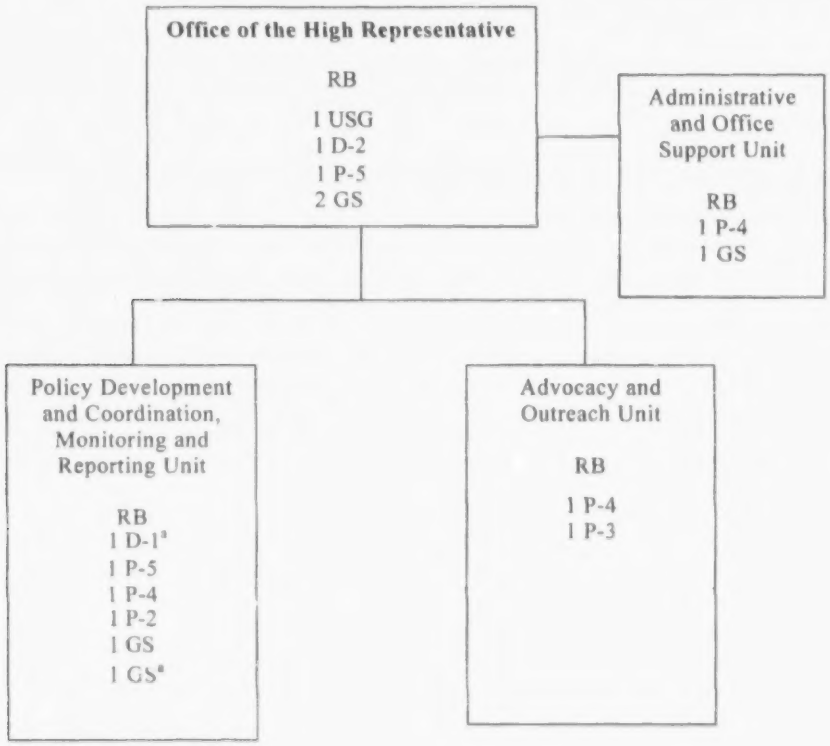
Table 10.6 **Resource requirements**

Category	Resources (thousands of United States dollars) 2002-2003	2004-2005 (before recosting)	Posts 2002-2003	2004-2005
Regular budget				
Post	2 723.2	3 374.3	13	15
Non-post	376.3	580.9	-	-
Total	**3 099.5**	**3 955.2**	**13**	**15**
Extrabudgetary	486.0	15.1	-	-

10.16 The proposed amount of $3,955,200 comprises: (a) $3,374,300 for the funding of 15 posts; and (b) $580,900 under non-post requirements for general temporary assistance, overtime, consultants and experts, travel, contractual services, general operating expenses, supplies and materials and furniture and equipment. The increase of $651,100 under posts is the result of changes in the staffing table owing to the establishment of one D-1 and one General Service post ($262,700) and the delayed impact of new posts established in the current biennium ($388,400). The amount under non-post resources includes $204,600 of increased costs in recognition of the fact that the resources initially available to transfer to the Office at the time of its establishment were strictly limited and did not reflect an adequate provision for its sustained long-term operations. Even after this adjustment, non-post costs would represent less than 15 per cent of the total resources available to the Office.

Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

Organizational structure and post distribution for the biennium 2004-2005



Abbreviations: RB, regular budget; USG, Under-Secretary-General; GS, General Service.

[a] New posts.